

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MAKARIOS LOOKS FORWARD TO NEW INITIATIVES IN 1977

1. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH PRO-GOG APOYEVMATINI APPEARING DECEMBER 20, CYPRUS PRESIDENT ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS STATED, AMONG OTHER SUBJECTS, THAT THE FIVE POINTS PRESENTED BY SECRETARY KISSINGER AT THE UNGA HAD OFFERED THE EC-9 THE "FRAMEWORK" FOR A "JUST" SOLUTION FOR THE CYPRUS ISSUE. THE ARCHBISHOP NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE INITIATIVE HAD COME AT AN INAPPROPRIATE TIME -- PRIOR TO THE U.S. ELECTIONS -- AND THAT NO "INITIATIVE" COULD BE CONSIDERED UNTIL AFTER THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER AND UNTIL THE NEW ADMINISTRATION HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE KNOWN ITS POLICIES ON VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES.

2. MAKARIOS SAID HE FORESAW VARIOUS "INITIATIVES" FROM MANY SIDES COMING IN THE FIRST MONTHS OF 1977, WHEN HE ALSO ENVISAGED THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WOULD RECONVENE. HE AFFIRMED THAT THE CYPRIOTS WOULD WELCOME THESE INITIATIVES PROVIDED THEY DID NOT INTERFERE NOR SUBSTITUTE FOR THE "U.S. EFFORT TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM".

3. AS TO TERRITORY, "FEDERATION" IS VIABLE, DECLARED MAKARIOS,
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PROVIDING IT ENSURES THE INDEPENDENCE, SOVERIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE ISLAND. HOWEVER, HE DOUBTED THAT TURKEY WANTED "FEDERATION" BUT RATHER SOUGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN CYPRUS, WHICH HE LABELLED "UNACCEPTABLE".

4. PRESIDENT MAKARIOS LAUDED SECRETARY-DESIGNATE CYRUS VANCE

AS A "MAN OF PRINCIPLES" AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT EARLY NEXT YEAR THE CLIMATE WOULD BE MORE FAVORABLE FOR FINDING A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. HE ALSO NOTED HIS PREFERENCE FOR A STRONG GOVERNMENT IN TURKEY RESULTING FROM THE 1977 ELECTIONS TO IMPROVE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS, ALTHOUGH HE ALLOWED THAT NEW FACES ALONE WOULD NOT ALTER SERIOUSLY TURKISH FOREIGN POLICIES. MAKARIOS COMMENTED ONE MUST DEAL WITH THE TURKS WITH SKILLFUL DIPLOMACY AND MILITARY MIGHT. FINALLY, IN NOTING THAT THE TURKS HAVE SHOWN THEIR DISDAIN FOR UN RESOLUTIONS, HE CONCLUDED, THAT TO BE SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES ON TURKEY MUST CONSIST OF "PRACTICAL MEASURES", CITING THE END OF U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE AS ONE SUCH "MEASURE" CAPABLE OF CHANGING TURKISH POLICY ON CYPRUS

5. FOR FULL TEXT OF THE INTERVIEW, PLEASE REFER TO ATHENS
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